App. No. 10/699,943 Reply to Office Action of 8/8/2005

## REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and reexamination of this application are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1 and 3 are hereby amended. Claim 2 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amendment of claim 1 is supported by subject matter of claim 2. Claim 3 is rewritten in independent form.

Claim 1 was rejected as being unpatentable over Beyrodt (US 2,097,581), in view of La Van (US 3,476,916), and further in view of Brosnan (US 4,343,989). Claim 1 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 2. Therefore, the rejection is rendered moot. Applicant is not conceding the correctness of the rejection as applied to the rejected claim. Favorable reconsideration and reexamination of claim 1 are requested.

In view of the above, early issuance of a notice of allowance is solicited. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Curtis B. Hamre, Reg. No. 29,165, at (612)455-3802.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 02.31,2005

Curtis B. Hamre Reg. No.: 29,165

Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C.

225 South Sixth Street

Suite 2650

Minneapolis, MN 55402

612.455.3800

CBH/mfe